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## THE REDISCOVERY OF *PHYSCOMITRIUM PYGMÆUM* JAMES

In 1894 I published a Revision of the Genus *Physcomitrium*<sup>1</sup> with descriptions of five new species. On plate 197, *Physcomitrium pygmæum* was illustrated "from original drawings by Sullivan" and at that time was very imperfectly known, from rather young and scant material. Since then it has been collected and distributed by C. F. Baker among his "*Plants of Nevada*," number 908, from King's Cañon, Ormsby County, 1700–2000 m., June 1, 1902, determined by M. Cardot, and quite recently a few plants have been sent to me by Professor J. M. Holzinger, from a collection made by A. Brinkman, July, 1917, on "wet ground," Alberta, Canada, altitude 2700 feet.

It seems desirable to place these two stations on record and to supplement the original description by measurements and studies of more abundant and mature specimens.

1. *Physcomitrium pygmæum* James. Bot. King's Exp. 404. 1871; Lesq. & James, Man. 197. 1884; Bull. Torr. Bot. Club 21: 191. 1894, plate 197.

Plants not more than 5 mm. high; stems stout, simple or branching by lateral innovations, seldom more than 3–4 mm. high, leafy to base or leaves clustered at apex; leaves lanceolate-acuminate, the costa ending in a mucronate point, margins entire or with swollen teeth; cells lax, oblong or hexagonal, sometimes 50–80 $\mu$  long by 18–24 $\mu$  wide; the marginal cells narrower or inflated; perichaetial leaves longest, occasionally with the costa ending below the apex. Dioicous? Antheridial plants not seen. Seta immersed or partially exerted, variable in length from .6 to 1.5 mm. long, stout, erect, occasionally 2 to 3 on one stem; neck long and tapering, sometimes to the vaginule, with few stomata, which are immersed, closed and surrounded by 10–12 radiating cells; urn globose, becoming pyriforme, up to .66 mm. long; walls of irregular oblong or hexagonal cells, 40–50 $\mu$  long; mouth bordered by 5–6 rows of transversely elongated cells, up to 40 $\mu$  long, the rim of minute, cuneiform, orange colored cells up to 13 $\mu$  long; lid .5 mm. long, conic with a blunt beak; spores reniform, 27–32 $\mu$  in diameter, warty with sinuous lines of papillae, maturing in June and July.

*Type locality:* Utah, on the ground above Parley's Park, Wasatch Mountains, 6500 feet alt. Collected by S. Watson, 1869; King's Cañon, Ormsby County, Nevada, 1700–2000 m. Collected by C. F. Baker, June, 1902; on wet ground, Alberta, Canada, alt. 2700 ft., collected by A. Brinkman, July, 1917, sent by Prof. J. M. Holzinger.

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NOTE I—Mrs. Britton kindly sent me some of Mr. Baker's Nevada plants, which enabled me to make careful comparisons. The Canadian plant has the stem uniformly naked below, the leaves being crowded close around the seta. The costa in most leaves is short excurrent. The material is rather scant, and the question of the relations of antheridia and archegonia is not fully settled,

<sup>1</sup> Bull. Torr. Bot. Club 21: 189–208, plates 197–203.

but I found two fruiting plants, at the base of each of which arose a plant. The leafy bud at its end had a few small club-shaped paraphyses, but no antheridia. These may have disappeared, being very delicate; and the plants would thus seem to be autoicous. Re-examination is necessary.

The spores in the two plants differ considerably. Mr. Baker's plants are younger, less mature. Mrs. Britton's description of size and markings applies to the spores of the Nevada plant. In the Canadian plant the spores are of the same shape, namely, kidney-shape; but they are larger, measuring  $30 \times 45$  to  $50\mu$ . Their surface is distinctly and clearly spiny, there being now no "sinuous lines of papillae," such as Mrs. Britton describes. I am persuaded that this difference in size and surface marking in the spores of the two collections is due to the difference in maturity, the Nevada plant being collected in June, the one from Canada in July.

JOHN M. HOLZINGER

WINONA, MINN., Feb. 15, 1921.

NOTE II—Under date of March 18, 1921, Dr. Holzinger writes as follows:

Since writing the remarks on Mrs. Britton's note on *Physcomitrium pygmaeum* I have found, among material not yet distributed in my herbarium, a third collection, made in Minnesota by the late Dr. J. H. Sandberg, which enables the certain determination of this species as autoicous. From a common stem arise two naked branches terminating in one leafy antheridial and one leafy archegonial bud. Only in the antheridial buds could I find the strongly club-shaped paraphyses similar to those figured in Engler & Prantl for *Funaria hygrometrica* (Die natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien, 1: 3: 204, fig. 123. 1909). They appear to be entirely absent in the archegonial buds.

JOHN M. HOLZINGER

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## NOTES ON CURRENT LITERATURE OF MOSSES

In a recently received article, M. Thériot<sup>1</sup> clears up the confusion that has existed regarding *Syrrhopodon Taylori* Schwaegr., *S. Gardneri* (Hook.) Schwaegr., and *Leucoloma Taylori* (Schwaegr.) Mitt. From a study of the original specimens in the Schwaegrichen herbarium, M. Thériot concludes that *Syrrhopodon Taylori* Schwaegr. is really a *Leucoloma*, as Mitten concluded; that the plate 132 in the Supplement. II. i. correctly represents it, save the figures of the peristome Nos. 11 and 12, which were by accident drawn from *S. Gardneri*, as was all of plate 131. The latter is a good species, founded on *Calymperes Gardneri* Hook. M. Thériot also adds that according to specimens sent him by M. Cardot, C. Mueller's *Leucoloma sarcotrichum* is wholly synonymous with *L. Taylori*. In the same article M. Thériot states that Duby's *Fabronia longidens* is identical with *Dimerodontium pellucidum* (Hook.) Mitt.

M. Thériot has also favored us with copies of the list of mosses contributed

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<sup>1</sup> Thériot, I. Notes bryologiques. Bull. soc. Bot. de Genève. 2me Sér. 11: 24-29. (1919),